

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety  
Meeting Minutes Summary  
Location: WUTC - Olympia, WA  
**May 8, 2002**

**Present**

Chuck Mosher, Chair  
Harry "Jay" Follman  
Lee A. James  
Duane Henderson  
Richard Gilda  
Brad Rosewood  
Grant Jensen  
Les Olsen  
Sarah Spence  
Alan J. Cabodi

**Absent**

Don Evans

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome
2. Adoption of April 10, 2002 Meeting Minutes
3. Follow-up from Tim Sweeney, WUTC Public Affairs Department
4. Pipeline Safety Inspection Presentation – Scott Rukke, WUTC Pipeline Safety Engineer
5. Description of Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) Study
6. Subcommittee Reports
7. Public Comment
8. WUTC Pipeline Safety Division Update
9. New Items of Business / Items for Next Meeting Agenda

1. **Welcome** – Chairman Chuck Mosher welcomed the Committee and the public to the meeting of the State of Washington Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety.
2. **Adoption of the April 10, 2002 Meeting Minutes** – The Committee voted to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2002 meeting without modifications.
3. **Follow-up from Tim Sweeney, WUTC Public Affairs Department** – Tim Sweeney spoke to the Committee about their suggestion to try to get the Call-Before-You-Dig phone number (800-424-5555) displayed in a more prominent area of the phone book. Tim brought a few different phone books to the meeting and showed the Committee how the number is shown in them. It was obvious that the number is not displayed on the same page in every phone book or even under the same heading in every phone book (i.e. one phone book had it listed under buried cable on the phone service information page).

He mentioned that the phone directory companies are competitive, non-regulated companies. The directory companies have an obligation to print local numbers but they are not obligated to print toll free numbers. Tim posed a few questions for the Committee to think about:

Where should the phone number be printed in the phone book?

What should it be called? Call-Before-You-Dig?

These questions need to be answered and thought through before the directory companies are approached. Tim suggested that a “brand” or campaign needs to be presented to the phone directory companies. Committee member Dick Gilda suggested having the number on the bottom of the emergency page or somewhere near the first two pages of the phone book. The issue of getting the Call-Before-You-Dig number in a more prominent area of the phone book was referred to the Pipeline Public Awareness Subcommittee. Tim said that he would work with the subcommittee on this issue.

4. **Pipeline Safety Inspection Presentation** – Scott Rukke, WUTC Pipeline Safety Engineer, prepared a presentation for the Committee that illustrated what a WUTC pipeline safety engineer does on an inspection. Scott mentioned that he mostly inspects local distribution companies. His presentation included information on the state and federal regulations pertaining to natural gas pipeline companies, which are the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-93, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80, sections 28, 210 and 212 and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 192. He explained the different types of inspections that the WUTC conducts, which are standard inspections, design and construction, and specialized (drug & alcohol, waiver requests, and incidents).
5. **Description of Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) Study** – Bob Thomas with JLARC and Dan Silver, private contractor hired by JLARC to scope the WUTC Pipeline Safety Division study, spoke with the Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety about the audit that will be conducted on the Pipeline Safety Division this year. The 2001 Legislature required the audit of the Pipeline Safety Program as part of the bill authorizing the Commission to charge pipeline companies a fee for its inspection program. JLARC is currently collecting information and talking to the WUTC Pipeline Safety Staff and will also be talking with Committee members and industry representatives.  
Bob and Dan informed the Committee of a meeting of interested parties on May 29<sup>th</sup> to collect more information for their study. Interested parties will include industry representatives, legislators, local government representatives, and members of the Citizens Committee. Dan Silver said that he would make sure that all the Committee members would be notified of the specifics of the interested parties meeting. At the meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup>, JLARC would like to know any important information to take into consideration for their report to the Legislature on the WUTC Pipeline Safety Division.
6. **Subcommittee Reports** – The Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety subcommittees met individually and then reported back to the group as a whole.

**Damage Prevention – Chair, Don Evans (Absent), Members - Duane Henderson, Richard Gilda**

- Working on drafting a letter to permitting agencies or the Building Code Council on placing the Call-Before-You-Dig number on the permit form and also asking them to designate a place for the ticket number.

**Public Awareness of Pipelines and Public Awareness – Chair, Brad Rosewood, Member - Les Olsen**

- Will work with the Damage Prevention Subcommittee and Tim Sweeney (WUTC Public Affairs Dept) to draft a letter to the WUCC requesting some information on the current status of getting the Call-Before-You-Dig number more prominently displayed in phonebooks and the status of any legislation for the 2003 legislative session.
- Working on a brochure to educate the citizens of the State of Washington on pipelines. Gathering information right now to find out what the pipeline companies in Washington State are currently providing to citizens along their pipeline right away.

**Legislative/Input/Monitoring – Chair, Lee James, Members – Jay Follman, Chuck Mosher & Grant Jensen**

- The Subcommittee distributed the draft annual report that Lee James wrote on the history/background of the Committee and recent pipeline safety bills at the state and federal level. Lee asked that the Committee submit any edits or comments to him. The annual report will be distributed to the Governor and State Legislature when it is completed.
- Plan to invite Representative Kelli Linville to a Committee meeting to find out what legislators anticipate will occur leading up to the 2003 legislative session on the issue of damage prevention. Carole Washburn said that she would be meeting with Rep. Linville next week to talk about damage prevention legislation. She would share the outcome of the meeting with the Committee.

**7. Public Comment -**

*Patrick Menendez, Citizen of Olympia & Student at Evergreen State College* – Mr. Menendez didn't feel local concerns had adequately addressed by local or federal officials about the Williams Pipeline natural gas project from Rainier to Satsop. Mr. Menendez submitted these written comments for the minutes:

- There have been 2,159 natural gas pipeline incidents in this country since 1986, including 282 fatalities and 1,264 injuries.
- According to the Williams Company "geological hazards represent the most significant risk" to "its pipeline system".
- Mr. Menendez stated: "I feel that all companies operating pipelines located in areas where known geological hazards, such as earthquakes, are present should be forced to hydrostatically test those pipelines immediately. In the case of the Satsop Project, I would like to see the preexisting pipeline tested prior to the proposed installation of the new pipeline, in response to seismic concerns raised by BPA."

- Mr. Menendez stated: “I think that pipeline safety would be enhanced if pipelines older than 30 years old were replaced with new pipe.”
- Mr. Menendez stated: “I believe that states should be given the jurisdiction over the regulation of natural gas pipelines, since the people living the Washington State are being forced to bear all of the safety risks associated with the transmission of natural gas, and will see none of the supposed benefits. The power generated at the Satsop Plant will be sent to California, and will not remain in Washington.”
- Mr. Menendez stated: “In closing, I believe that the safety margin of natural gas pipelines in Washington State would increase if operators were forced to lower operating pressures and a policy of mandatory hydrostatic testing of all pipelines imposed. I also feel that pipelines older that 30 years old should be phased out.”

*Jamie Sullivan, Olympia Resident* – Ms. Sullivan echoed Mr. Menendez’s comments by stating that she had concerns over the Satsop Project because of the seismic activity in Washington State and other environmental concerns. She also doesn’t feel the pipeline is necessary considering the revenue won’t stay in Washington State.

*Dean French, Citizen* - Mr. French has spent 40 years in the construction business, 25 years working with occupational health issues and has also installed pipeline. He stated that Thurston County citizens didn’t feel they had a voice in the matter of the Rainier to Satsop pipeline project and believe that it is being “shoved down their throats”. Mr. French said that residents concerned about the proposed pipeline went to the Thurston County Commissioners and the County Commissioners said that it was not in their hands, it was being handled at the federal level. He felt there should have been more publicized hearings with the parties involved. Thurston County residents would like to see more vigilance and want the pipeline to be put in safely.

Chuck stated that the Committee should get involved in the siting process to help make it more accessible and “friendlier” to concerned citizens that are affected by the construction of proposed pipelines. Carole Washburn also acknowledged the people that spoke during the public comment section of the meeting and told them they could contact the WUTC pipeline safety division if they ever had any questions. Carole said that she realized that the FERC siting process is a bit frustrating and is very judicial; the WUTC would be happy to help them with any questions they might have.

8. **WUTC Pipeline Safety Division Update** – Doug Kilpatrick, Pipeline Safety Director informed the Committee that the pipeline safety engineering staff has recently been attending Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) trainings. Five WUTC engineers will be attending a TSI training in June on welding reliability and assessment of pipelines in preparation for participation with OPS on inspections of liquid pipeline company integrity management plans. Beginning in November, OPS and the interstate agents will conduct comprehensive inspections of integrity management plans as required by federal rule.

This fall the WUTC will also be working with the pipeline companies to find out how they are implementing the operator qualification rule contained in 49 CFR Part 192,

Subpart N. The operator qualification rule requires companies to qualify all pipeline personnel who do “covered tasks” on pipelines. A covered task is an activity, identified by the operator, that:

- (1) Is performed on a pipeline facility;
- (2) Is an operations or maintenance task;
- (3) Is performed as a requirement of Part 192; and
- (4) Affects the operation or integrity of the pipeline.

Doug reminded the Committee of the inspection information he provided at the April meeting for the purpose of compiling information for the Committee’s annual report. Doug asked if there were any questions on that information. Chuck expressed an interest in seeing a report that could show how many violations have been found vs. how many violations have been resolved. Also a report of any major problems or trends was requested.

Doug talked about the Kalama River exposure of a section of Olympic Pipeline in Southwest Washington. Doug said that Olympic re-supported the pipeline with rock and are working on a long-term fix, which would most likely be the replacement of the pipe. He reminded them about the American Petroleum Institute (API) public awareness information that was handed out at the April meeting. Chuck said the Committee would follow up on the public awareness issue. The first draft language will be out in July according to API’s website.

Doug informed the Committee of the current solicitation of members to the Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety. The process for application is to submit a letter of interest and resume to Karen Campbell with the Governor’s office (PO Box 40002 Olympia, WA 98504-0002 or by fax at (360) 586-5281). The information on how to apply to the Committee is also posted the Citizens Committee page on the WUTC website, which is located at [www.wutc.wa.gov/pipeline](http://www.wutc.wa.gov/pipeline). Doug let the Committee know that he received several calls from prospective members and they felt that they couldn’t meet on a monthly basis and the Committee may want to consider re-evaluating the frequency of meetings. Every other month was proposed, but a majority of Committee members still wanted 10 meetings a year. Someone suggested teleconferencing for the meetings and Doug noted that teleconferencing is not always available at every facility where the meetings are held. Committee members also expressed an interest in trying to get more citizen involvement on the eastside of the state and to also hold some meetings in eastern Washington. It was noted that BP Olympic offered their Renton facility as a meeting place for the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. WUTC staff will follow up with BP Olympic.

**9. New Items of Business / Items for Next Meeting Agenda –**

Chuck Mosher updated the Committee on the status of the pipeline safety bill at the Congressional level. He said that he has been working closely with Representative Jennifer Dunn’s office to try to draft additional language to be added to Representative Don Young’s bill. The draft language would include provisions for adequate funding for pipeline safety programs.

Carole informed the Committee that the WUTC Pipeline Safety Division has been working with Representative Rick Larsen’s aides to give input on draft language from

Rep. Larsen's office. The input Rep. Larsen was seeking was information on integrity management related to natural gas facilities.

Lee James mentioned that he had been in Washington D.C. the week before the Committee meeting and met with Senator Patti Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell's aides encouraging them to support the Young bill. Lee said that he also left a message with Rep. Adam Smith's office, which encouraged him to support the bill.

No items for the next meeting agenda were noted at the meeting.

\*Note: The location of the next Committee meeting (June 12, 2002) was not decided at the meeting. The location will be announced as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on May 8, 2002.